Message Text

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ACTION CU-04

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R 050946Z MAY 75 FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9119 INFO AMCONSUL IBADAN

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EXC, ENRG, NI

SUBJECT: SUMMER INTERNSHIPS IN U.S. OIL INDUSTRY

REF: (A) STATE 091408 (B) LAGOS 3518

1. SUMMARY: EMBASSY PROPOSES AWARD TRAVEL-ONLY GRANTS TO FOUR PETROLEUM ENGINEERING STUDENTS FROM UNIVERSITY OF IBADAN FOR SUMMER EXPERIENCE WITH SPONSORING OIL COMPANIES IN CONTINENTAL U.S. PROGRAM FIRST TRIED IN SUMMER 1974, AND ITS SUCCESS HAS LED UNIVERSITY AND EMBASSY TO INCREASE NUMBER OF STUDENT PARTICIPANTS (INTERNS) THIS YEAR AND HAS CREATED INTEREST OF MORE THAN REQUIRED NUMBER OF U.S. OIL COMPANIES TO BECOME SPONSORS. FALLOUT FUNDING REQUESTED. END SUMMARY.

2. AS LAST YEAR, STUDENTS INVOLVED ARE THIRD-YEAR UNDERGRADUATES IN DEPARTMENT PETROLEUM ENGINEERING, INSTITUTE OF APPLIED SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY, UNIVERSITY OF IBADAN. (IAST WILL SOON BECOME FAC/OF TECHNOLOGY, AND DPE IS ITS LARGEST DEPARTMENT). PROGRAM PERMITS SELECTED STUDENTS TO GAIN PRACTICAL EXPERIENCE IN FIELD THEIR STUDIES, AT SAME TIME BE EXPOSED TO U.S. CULTURE AND INDUSTRY FIRST HAND. BENEFITS TO USG AND U.S. COMPANIES INCLUDE GOOD PUBLIC RELATIONS AND, IN LONG RUN, INCREASED AWARENESS OF U.S. ATTIUDES AND METHODS. THESE GOALS ARE ESPECIALLY IMPORTANT IN PETROLEUM AREA BECAUSE U.S. DEPENDS HEAVILY ON NIGERIA AS SOURCE OF CRUDE OIL AND BECAUSE RELATIONS BETWEEN US. OIL COMPANIES AND NIGERIAN GOVERNMENT AND PUBLIC UNCLASSIFIED

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ARE NOT PERFECT.

3.PROGAM TO BE ADMINISTERED SAME AS LAST YEARS. USG RESPONSIBLE FOR TRAVEL GRANTS AND ARRANGING J VISAS. SPONSORING COMPANIES HAVE ACCEPTED ALL OTHER RESPONSIBILITIES, I.E. FINDING SUITABLE SUMMER PROGRAM IN PRACTICAL WORK SITUATION, DETERMINING STARTING AND ENDING DATES, PROVIDING AT LEAST ENOUGH FUNDS TO COVER ALL EXPENSES, AND ASSISTING INTERNS ARRIVAL, DEPARTURE, AND LIVING ARRANGEMENTS WHILE IN U.S. EMBASSY PAYS ONLY ROUND TRIP ECONOMY-CLASS TRAVEL FROM NIGERIA TO POINT IN LOWER 48-STATES DESIGNATED BYTUORING COMPANY AND, IF FUNDS AVAILABLE, PROVIDES ONE OR TWO WEEK OBSERVATION TOUR AT END OF STAY. EACH INTERN TRAVELS INDEPENDENTLY OF OTHERS.

- 4. AS DEPARTMENT AWARE, 1974 PROGRAM INVOLVED THREE STUDENTS, ONIWHO. (OMOLE) UNABLE OBTAIN NIGERIAN PASSPORT IN TIME TO PARTICIPATE. BOTH INTERNS WHO DID PARTICIPATE (EZEUDEMBAH WITH PHILLIPS PETROLEUM AND NZEKWU WITH A SMALL EXPLORATION FIRM) RETURNED VERY ENTHUSIASTIC ABOUT PROGRAM, AND THEIR EXPERIENCE WAS JUDGED EQUALLY SUCCESSFUL BY ALL OTHER ACCOUNTS, INCLUDING STATE 177890 OF AUGUST 14, 1974. (EMBASSY THEREFORE PUZZLED BY ASSERTION REFTEL A. THAT DIFFICULTIES ENCOUNTERED IN TWO OF LAST YEARS THREE CASES.)
- 5. PREVIOUS SUCCESS: UNIBADAN TO PUT FORWARD EIGHT QUALIFIED AND ENTHUSIASTIC APPLICANTS FOR THIS YEARS PROGRAM.
 EMBASSY CIRCULARIZED DOZEN U.S. OIL COMPANIES, AND FIVE IMMEDIATELY AGREED SPONSOR AS MANY AS SEVEN INTERNS (IN MARKED CONTRAST TO 1974 WHEN SINGLE OIL COMPANY SPONSORSHIP OBTAINED). EMBASSY ACCEPTED FIRST FOUR COMPANIES TO RESPOND (ASHLAND OIL, ARCO,MOBIL OIL, AND PHILLIPS PETROLEUM) AND ALLOWED THEM PICK OWN INERNS FROM APPLICANTS.
- 6. RESULT IS FOLLOWING LIST OF STUDENT INTERNS MATCHED WITH SPONSORING COMPANIES (ALSO SHOWN IS NAME AND TELEPHONE NUMBER OF EACH COMPANY OFFICER RESPONSIBLE FOR ADMINISTRATION OF PROGRAM IN U.S.):

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JOSEPH NOGIZE ONWUAMA HOUSTON, TEXAS 77001 713/225/5511

MOBIL OIL CORP: D. HARVEY, ADMINISTRATION DEPT.

EMMANUEL BAMIDELE ALADE NEW YORK, NEW YORK 10017 212/883-4242

PHILLIPS PETROLEUM COM: B.G. MOORE, INTERNATIONAL DEPT.

LEYE AMOS ADEOBA BARTLESVILLE, OKLAHOMA 74003

70/1-6600

ATLANTIC RICHFIELD CO.(ARCO) R.M. COOK, INTERNATIONAL DIVISION (COMPANY'S CHOICE OF FIVE EXPLORATION AND PRODUCTION DEPT. STUDENTS WHOSE BIODATA SENT LOS ANGELES, CALIF 90071 TO MR. COOK ON APRIL 17, 213/486-1296 1975).

7. BIODATA BEING FORWARDED. AS REQUESTED LAGOS 03518, EMBASSY HOPES NOMINEES WILL BE GIVEN FAVORABLE CONSIDERATION FOR FY-1975 FALL-OUT FUNDS. IF NOT, FY-76 FUNDS WILL BE USED.

8. ADVISE. CROSBY

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